



Successful Intra-Agency Collaborations On Commercial Imagery & Products



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Project:

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Office of Global Analysis (OGA), International Production Assessment Division (IPAD) is responsible for global crop condition assessments and estimates of area, yield and production for grains, oilseeds, and cotton. Their primary mission is to target, collect, analyze, and disseminate timely, objective, useful, and cost-effective global crop condition and agricultural market intelligence information.

In 2000, the USDA Satellite Imagery Archive (SIA) library was developed. The SIA is a cost sharing program to maximize the cost effectiveness of USDA expenditures for commercial satellite imagery and expand the availability of global satellite imagery to the USDA community. The SIA is a data partnership between the Foreign Agricultural Service, Farm Service Agency, Forest Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Agricultural Research Service, The Natural Resources and Conservation Service, the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service and the Risk Management Agency, the largest SIA user.

Participating Agencies



Results:

Through centralized purchasing and a low cost-business model, participating USDA agencies get access to a large database of domestic and international satellite imagery. This allows the USDA agencies to take advantage of contracts already in place and benefit from significantly lower prices. The SIA has a global imagery database of more than 35,000 satellite images dating back to 1979. The USDA Satellite Imagery Archive has saved the

USDA millions of taxpayer dollars since 2000 by removing redundant satellite imagery purchases and lowering costs through a centralized acquisition business model.

As economic pressures continue to grow from globalization, population pressures, resource depletion, global warming, etc., the demands for Global Food Security products have risen 100 fold over the past few years and this interagency collaboration helps meet that demand. The successful result of the Satellite Imagery Archive has led to the further development of the site through the Redundant Archive Management and Hosting Capability of commercial company i-Cubed, in Ft. Collins, CO allowing greater agency access to advanced products provided to SIA members which is **supported by Risk Management Agency.**

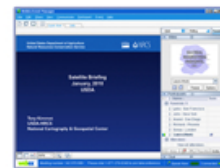
i-Cubed DataDoors™ SIA Portal



The DataDoors™ tool is a flexible framework that integrates distributed geographic data management - discovery, acquisition, processing, analysis & modeling, delivery,

also utilized by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Army, U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) and various other government entities, allowing for even greater inter-agency data sharing opportunities.

Global Marketing Insights, Inc. develops and hosts the SIA member's quarterly WebEx meetings and online SIA Newsletters. These tools provide SIA members up-to-date information concerning available geospatial technology specifically targeted for their applications.



USDA Intra-Agency SIA Member Benefits

- Saves Millions of US Taxpayer Dollars
- Enables less time spent on ordering of data and more on using the data
- Imagery received in 72 hours as opposed to 3 weeks under the previous ordering methods

"It's a huge advantage to us to have [imagery] more readily available. All we have to do is let [the Satellite Imagery Archive] know what we need."

- Bryan Cook, Texas State Agricultural Program Specialist with USDA/FSA

"Rather than having to put out the bid or use other procurement methods to obtain imagery, [the Prime Vendor Contract] has really saved a lot of time by working this out ahead of time. I can get imagery as quickly as the satellite vendor can supply it."

- Dr. Jim Hipple, Remote Sensing and GIS Advisor - Geospatial Policy of the USDA/RMA Office of Strategic Data Acquisition

For More Information

call 216-525-0600

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To access the Satellite Imagery Archive

<http://usda-sia.datadoors.net/datadoorsweb/Order.aspx>